



News Release

Escambia County
Office of Public Information and Communications
P.O. Box 1591, Pensacola FL 32591

Hurricane Dennis
News Release 16
Date: July 13, 2005
Time: 12:45

Escambia County- Hurricane Dennis Update

➤ **Damage Assessments**

- Preliminary reports that are subject to change show in Escambia County, 42 structures were destroyed, 41 sustained major damage, 55 had minor damage, and 100 has some level of damage.
- The City of Pensacola reports 82 structures were affected.
- The Extension Center reports 1,000 farm structures and 500 farm dwellings have some form of damage.
- The Extension Center reports the estimated crop loss for Escambia County to be:
 - Corn- 95%
 - Peanuts- 10%
 - Cotton- 25%
 - Soybeans- 15%
 - Pines planted in CRP have damage in excess of 50% due to combined winds from Ivan and Dennis.

➤ **Distribution Sites**

- On Tuesday, July 12, Escambia County opened the following distribution sites for **water and ice**:
 - Washington High School, 6000 College Blvd.
 - Old Winn Dixie Shopping Center, 470 N. Hwy 29, Cantonment
 - Ernest Ward Middle School, 7650 Hwy 97, Walnut Hill
 - Molino Park Elementary School, 899 Hwy 97, Molino
 - Carver/Century School, 440 E Hecker Road, Pensacola
 - Ferry Pass Middle School, 8355 Yancy Avenue, Pensacola
 - The Brent Mall site has closed and relocated to the Oaks Shopping Center at 5007 N. Davis (Closed Food World Store)
 - Warrington Village Shopping Center (Old Zayre's location), 507 N Navy Blvd, Pensacola
- **MREs are available on a limited basis at all sites until those supplies are exhausted.**
- Hours of operation are from **7am to 6pm**

- The Pensacola Civic Center is NOT a distribution site.

➤ **Burn Ban**

- Effective July 13, Escambia County is under a burn ban prohibiting the burning of trash, leaves, branches, trees, and garbage anywhere in Escambia County until further notice.
- Violator could be punished by a fine up to \$500 and/or by imprisonment in County Jail for up to 60 days.

➤ **Workforce Escarosa**

- If you have lost your job due to Hurricane Dennis, Workforce Escarosa has temporary jobs paying \$10 per hour and higher. The jobs range from laborer positions to Administrative Assistant positions.
 - If you feel you qualify, you can visit the Workforce Escarosa office at 3475 N “L” Street in Pensacola or call them at 595-5200.
 - The phones may not work due to lack of power.

➤ **Pensacola Beach**

- Going west on Fort Pickens Road to approximately Tristan Towers, residents may drive their personal vehicles.
- Going east, two trolleys will be available and two-way traffic all the way to the Portafino area will be available. Trolley riders should park in the Casino Beach parking lot.
- Contractors will be allowed to use their own vehicles to accompany homeowners for temporary repairs. They must have the proper credentials.
- Credentialed Insurance Adjusters may go to Pensacola Beach, park at Casino Beach parking lot, ride the trolleys and visit the properties they need to visit.
- The Island Authority is proud that they were able to provide access to Pensacola Beach within 24 hours after the storm and allow residents their first look at their property/businesses.
- **PLEASE USE EXTREME CAUTION AS POWER LINES ARE DOWN ON THE ROADWAY AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ARE WORKING TO CLEAR THE ROADWAY.**
- Pensacola Beach still has downed power lines and impassable roads.
- The Pensacola Beach Fishing Pier is still closed.
- There are no lifeguards on the beach.
- Everyone is urged to stay out of water.
- The Bob Sikes Bridge is open.

➤ **Perdido Key**

- Perdido Key is open but under current curfew conditions
 - No hurricane passes are needed.
 - Power has been restored and ECUA has restored water and sewer service.
- Residents are encouraged to pick up their hurricane passes if they have not already done so.

➤ **Curfew Order**

- A curfew order is in effect from 10:00pm to 4:00am.
- Law Enforcement agencies will enforce the curfew with the following exceptions:
 - Businesses and their employees who sell any goods, services, materials, merchandise, supplies, equipment, resources, or other articles of commerce including food, water, ice, chemicals, petroleum products, and lumber necessary for use as a result of a direct emergency; emergency responders including employees of Federal, State, County and Municipal agencies and health care workers assigned to work as a direct result of this emergency; and employees or agency volunteers of non-governmental organizations officially participating in the emergency response effort assigned to work as a direct result of this emergency are exempt.
- **Disaster Recovery Centers**
 - The following Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) opened on Tuesday, July 12, 2005:
 - The Ag Building in Century
 - 33 Brent Lane, Pensacola
 - Community Center, 5259 Booker Lane, Jay
 - South Santa Rosa Service Center, 5819 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze
 - All centers will be open from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm, seven days a week until further notice.
 - The agencies that may be represented are as follows:
 - Agency for Workforce Innovation
 - Department of Financial Services (Insurance)
 - Department of Elder Affairs
 - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
 - SBA
 - To register for assistance, please call 1-800-621-FEMA
- **Summer Feeding Program**
 - All Escambia County Summer Feeding Program sites will be closed on Wednesday, July 13, 2005. Additional closure days will be announced.
- **Colleges**
 - **Virginia College**
 - Classes resumed on Wednesday, July 13, 2005.
 - **Pensacola Junior College**
 - All Pensacola Junior College campuses are closed and classes cancelled until Monday, July 18, 2005.
 - Only essential personnel should report to work (maintenance, grounds, housekeeping). All other faculty members and students should not return.
 - **University of West Florida**
 - The University is closed through Monday, July 18, 2005.
 - On Monday, July 18, 2005, operations will return to normal.
 - Any personnel needed will be contacted.
- **Coast Guard**

- All waterways in the Mobile COTP zone from Mobile Harbor to the western end of the COTP Mobile AOR are open to commercial barge traffic only. Mariners are advised to use caution when transiting these waters, due to possible Aids to Navigation discrepancies and debris from Hurricane Dennis. Follow up surveys are currently being conducted and mariners will be advised of possible hazards through broadcast notice to mariners.
 - Current information may be obtained from the COTP Mobile Voice Mail Announcement system at phone number (251) 441-5080.
 - Further questions may be addressed by contacting Sector Mobile at (251) 441-5508.
- **Debris Clean-Up**
- Residents should place Hurricane Dennis debris on the County right-of-way.
 - Vegetative debris and construction and demolition (C&D) debris must be separated. If debris is mixed, it will not be picked up.
 - Debris should not be placed in the roadway or within 10 feet of fire hydrants, mailboxes or water meters.
- **State of Florida**
- The following state parks reopened today:
 - Traklin Bayou Preserve State Park- County Road 293
 - Perdido Key State Park- 12301 Gulf Beach Hwy.
 - Big Lagoon State Park- 12301 Gulf Beach Hwy.
 - Topsail Hill Preserve State Park- 7525 W. Scenic Hwy. in Santa Rosa Beach
 - The Chappie James Building in Escambia County is now open for regular business.
- **Traffic**
- Please stay off roads so crews can repair services.
 - The Department of Transportation and the Escambia County Road Department report that within the city, 18 of 31 traffic signals have been repaired. In the county, 91 of 131 signals have also been repaired.
 - Flashing Yellow lights – Do not stop – Keep moving.
 - Flashing Red lights – Stop – and then proceed when safe to do so.
- **Shelters**
- All shelters have closed except one:
 - Pine Forest United Methodist Church, 2800 Wilde Lake Boulevard, Pensacola.
- **Escambia County Emergency Operations**
- The EOC will operate daytime hours only, 7:00 am to 7:00 pm, beginning today, Wednesday, July 13, 2005.
- **Transportation**
- ECAT bus service resumed normal operations and service.

- The I-10 Escambia Bay Bridge is open.
- In the north end of the County, Pine Forest Road will be closed between Garrett Road and Doran Road.
- The bridge and road at Eleven Mile Creek on 297A will be closed between Highway 97 and Pinecone Drive. **The Road Department hopes to have temporary repairs done by the end of the week.**
- Fanny Road and Barrineau Park Road remain closed while the bridges are being replaced (as a result of damage from Hurricane Ivan last year).
- Richardson Road in Molino is closed at this time.
- Tolls remain suspended on the Mid-Bay and Garcon Point Bridges in Florida's panhandle until further notice.
- The Florida Department of Transportation has set up and is manning a phone bank for motorists seeking information. Live personnel are standing by 24/7 to answer calls related to detours, road closures and other transportation related issues. The toll free number is 888-638-0250, then dial 1 and extension 637.

➤ **County Office Announcements**

○ **Parks and Recreation**

- The Escambia County Equestrian Center has 43 RV sites open and available to the public.
 - Sites are on a first come/first served basis
 - Cost is \$18 plus tax per night
 - The Equestrian Center is staffed from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm
- As soon as power is restored, Lake Stone Campground will reopen.
 - Approximately 65 sites will be available as soon as power is restored.

○ **Mosquito Control**

- Residents are asked to report service requests to 595-3147.

○ **Employee Updates**

- All Board of County Commission employees that are not presently in a job assignment should have reported to the Extension Center at 8:00 am on Wednesday. This includes all employees who have not been assigned pre-storm duties. Employees ONLY should call (850) 475-5488, (850) 475-5489, (850) 475-5490 or (850) 475-5491 if they have any questions. This does not include School Board or Emerald Coast Utilities Authority employees. Employees are asked to come prepared to work outside with tennis shoes, sunscreen, hats, etc.

○ **Facilities Management**

- Escambia County Facilities Management reports as of July 11, the Escambia County Jail, Central Booking, Sheriff's Administration, Property Appraiser, Archives Office, and Century Courthouse all have power and water pressure.
- The Road Prison Generator is working.
- Escambia County Facilities Management reports damage to the following buildings:
 - The canopy blew off the Central Booking building onto Escambia County One-Stop Building.

- The Animal Shelter has sustained roof damage.
- **Road Department**
 - Escambia County Road Department Crews are currently inspecting roads.
- **Engineering Department**
 - The Escambia County Engineering Department is evaluating all traffic signals and will have generators at locations that do not have power.
- **Escambia County Animal Shelter**
 - The Escambia County Animal Shelter is open.
 - The phone system at Escambia County Animal Control is back in service. Citizens should call 595-3075 for routine calls or 595-3080 for emergency calls.
- **Escambia County Building Inspections**
 - The Town and Country office of the Escambia County Building Inspections is operating normal business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Their phone number is (850) 595-3550.
 - The Molino Office will reopen as soon as power is restored.
 - Any contractors needing to have access to the beach must obtain a permit from the Building Inspections office.
- **Perdido Landfill**
 - The Department of Solid Waste Management will be placing recycling containers at their respective Recycling Drop-Off Sites throughout the County. Residents may call the department at (850) 937-2160 or visit www.EscambiaRecycles.com for current information regarding the status of each site.
 - Disposal rates at Perdido Landfill in Escambia County have not been waived.
 - Standard rates are \$27.00 per ton for household garbage and \$18.00 per ton for yard trash.
 - The landfill has re-opened.
 - The Oak Grove Convenience Center will reopen at 8:30am Thursday.
 - Citizens are encouraged to report anyone who is seen dumping illegally by providing vehicle tag numbers and descriptions to (850) 595-3536.
 - The Debris Hotline, 937-2180, will resume as soon as possible after the storm.
- **Supervisor of Elections**
 - The Supervisor of Elections office is open effective today, July 13, 2005.
- **Tax Collector**
 - The Downtown, Marcus Pointe, Warrington and Century Tax Collector offices are open and will operate on normal business hours from 8:30 to 5:00 Wednesday through Friday.
 - The Cantonment Office remains closed.
- **Sheriff's Office**
 - All Sheriff's Office employees are to return to work, Wednesday, July 13, 2005.

➤ **Escambia County Health Department**

- Escambia County Health Department Director Dr. John Lanza is recommending that residents receive a tetanus vaccine when they are wounded. Open cuts and wounds are vulnerable to the tetanus bacteria, which can get in through even a tiny pinprick or scratch.

- The health department will be operating two mobile clinics on Wednesday July 13 to provide the tetanus vaccination and minor wound care:

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Pensacola Beach

Parking Lot at Casino Beach

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Century

Carver/Century School, 440 E.
Hecker Road

The public can also receive the tetanus vaccination at the Fairfield Drive Clinic.

- When residents receive deep cuts or wounds, they should immediately seek medical care through their physician or hospital emergency room. Medical attention is required to determine if a tetanus booster is needed.
- The Health Department is urging individuals to be aware of the warning signs of heat exhaustion. Heat exhaustion is a milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after several days of exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids.
- Elderly citizens pose the most likely risk and should take extra precautions. Additional persons prone to heat exhaustion are people with high blood pressure and people working or exercising in a hot environment.
- Warning signs of heat exhaustion are heavy sweating, muscle cramps, paleness, tired and dizziness, headaches, nausea or vomiting and fainting. Additional signs may include fast and shallow breathing, a fast and weak pulse rate, and cool and moist skin.
- Seek medical attention immediately if the symptoms are severe or the victim has heart problems or high blood pressure.
- The Escambia County Health Department is providing **only**
 - WIC services
 - Dental Emergency Care
 - Tetanus shots
 - ADAP Drugs
- The public can call 595-6632 or 595-6648 for other health department questions.
- Nebulizer treatments can be provided at any fire department.
- Escambia County Health Department employees must call-in their status after Dennis makes landfall using the toll-free phone number 1-877-425-8852. There are more than 400 health department employees reporting to emergency assignments during Hurricane Dennis including assignments at the county's Special Needs Shelter.

➤ **Escambia County School District**

- An informational hotline has been established to keep employees and the public updated throughout the Hurricane Dennis recovery effort. The 24-hour number is **469-5306**.
 - The hotline will be updated as conditions warrant and currently contains

the following information:

- All 11 & 12-month personnel should return to their worksites on Thursday, July 14 at regular times. The July 13 return date was amended due to power outages.
- Recovery Team custodians should report to the custodial services department, 30 E. Texar Drive, at 7:00 am Wednesday, July 13.
- Principals and district administrators will meet at 8:00 am Friday, July 15 in the Tate High cafeteria in lieu of the meeting originally scheduled for July 12 at the same location.
- School-based personnel who do not have their paychecks deposited directly and are scheduled to be paid on Friday, July 15 will receive them via US Mail. The checks will be mailed on Thursday.
- Preliminary reports show the following schools with major damage:
 - Workman Middle
 - Bratt Elementary
 - Sutter Elementary
 - Brownsville Middle
 - West Florida Technical High School
 - Brown Barge Middle
 - Northview High School
 - Woodham High School
- Preliminary reports show the following schools with moderate damage:
 - Helen Caro Elementary
 - Ensley Elementary
 - Hallmark Elementary
 - Lipscomb Elementary
 - Environmental Center
 - Ferry Pass Middle
 - Washington High School
 - Ransom Middle School
 - Pine Meadow Elementary
- The damage is not expected to hinder the opening of schools in August
- Disaster assessment teams are asked to report to their respective sites at 7:00 am Monday.
- The Escambia County School District has reported that all district activities are cancelled for this week.
- The School Board workshop originally scheduled for Friday, July 15, 2005 has been rescheduled for Monday, July 18, 2005 at 9:00 am in room 160 of the J. E. Hall Center.

➤ **Courts**

- The Information Hotline for the courts is 850/595-4400 in Pensacola.
 - All Courts in Escambia, Okaloosa and Walton Counties are open.
 - Santa Rosa County Courts remain closed until further notice due to damages sustained as a result of Hurricane Dennis. As operations resume in Santa Rosa County, please note that hearings may be held in locations other than the courthouse.

- Domestic Violence hearings scheduled for July 13th in Santa Rosa County have been continued to July 20th and will be held at the Board of County Commissioners Meeting Room located at the County Administrative Office Complex, 6495 Caroline Street, Milton. Restraining Orders previously issued remain in full force and effect until heard.
- If you have missed a court date during any court closure, please contact your attorney for rescheduling. If you are unrepresented, please contact your respective Clerk of Court for rescheduling information.

- **City of Pensacola**
 - The main Pensacola Library, the Tryon Library and the Southwest Escambia Branch Library reopened today, Wednesday, July 13, 2005.
 - All City of Pensacola recreation centers and swimming pools are closed and will return to operation as they have electrical power returned to them.
 - The City expects that all traffic signals within the City of Pensacola will be operational within 3 to 4 days. Motorists are reminded to continue to consider that the four-way stop rules apply at all existing, non-functioning traffic signals.
 - For questions concerning debris collection or to have C&D (construction and demolition) debris pre-approved for pickup, call 477-0591 from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm beginning Tuesday, July 12, 2005.
 - Yard trash collection within the City has been suspended. Crews will begin this week collecting vegetative debris ONLY. Only vegetative debris will be collected on the first pass.
 - All C&D debris from Hurricane Dennis (sheetrock, fencing, damaged household goods, etc.) should be stored on the right-of-way in piles separate from vegetative debris. If C&D debris is not pre-approved for collection, it will be collected at the homeowner's expense.
 - No debris should be put into City streets. Any debris in City streets should be moved to the City right-of-way.
 - Garbage collection will begin within the City on Tuesday on a holiday schedule. Monday's garbage routes will be collected Tuesday and Tuesday's on Wednesday. On Thursday and Friday, the City will return to its regular collection schedule.
 - Preliminary estimates are that approximately 100 structures within the City of Pensacola suffered damage from Hurricane Dennis with about half of them having major damage.
 - The City of Pensacola reports the northeast side of the city was hardest hit. Most damage was not severe, generally downed trees.
 - The Pensacola City Council has cancelled City Committee meeting scheduled Thursday, July 14. All meetings are expected to be rescheduled for the week beginning July 17.

- **Pensacola Regional Airport**
 - The Pensacola Regional Airport is reports that the Airport and Terminal Building are open for scheduled flight operations as of Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at 4:00 a.m.
 - Travelers are advised to make any travel changes by telephone, and should not come out to the airport before contacting their airlines.

AirTran Airways	1-800-247-8726
American Eagle	1-800-433-7300
Continental Airways	1-800-525-0280
Delta Air Lines	1-800-221-1212
Northwest	1-800-225-2525
US Airways	1-800-428-4322

- Contact information for all airlines serving the Pensacola Regional Airport is available on our website www.flypensacola.com.

➤ Navy

- Naval Air Station Whiting Field expects to receive Training Air Wing FIVE aircraft returning from the recent hurricane evacuation, tomorrow, July 13th. **However, the base continues to be closed except to personnel designated as “Red, Orange, Purple, Blue, and Yellow” team members.”**
- All “Team” members must have the required colored decals on their identification card to gain access to the base.
- If team personnel are not able to report to work, they should contact the NAS Whiting Field EOC at 623-7709/7287
- NAS Pensacola sustained minimal damage. The front and back gates are open. Access is restricted to military and civilian employees with red stickers.
- All residents of Mariner Village may return at any time. Be advised there is no power as of yet.
- NAS Pensacola base housing was opened for residents at noon Monday, July 11, 2005. Base housing does have power.
- NAS Pensacola is open. All personnel should report at normal working hours.
- All DEFAS personnel are to report at normal working hours on Wednesday, July 13, 2005.
- Boat owners with boats at Bayou Grande Marina had access to their boats at noon Monday.
- Military personnel and government employees are exempt from the curfew order.
- NAS Whiting EOC contact number is: (850) 623-7709/7287.
- The Naval Hospital resumed normal operations on Tuesday, July 12, 2005.
- NAS Saufley Field resumed normal operations on Monday, July 11, 2005.

➤ Gulf Power

- Gulf Power Company has restored electricity to 122,000 of the 242,000 customers who lost electric service in Northwest Florida because of Hurricane Dennis.
- The company has completed restoration work in Bay, Jackson, Holmes and Washington counties. Restoration is also complete in all of Walton Count except SanDestin, and Niceville, Valparaiso, Laurel Hill and Crestview (except for Baker and Milligan) in Okaloosa County. Customers in these areas only who do not have power should call 1-800 GU-POWER. Crews working those areas will be shifted to help in Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Escambia counties.
- Gulf Power estimates that power will be restored to 95% of the customers who can take power by the first of next week.

- In addition to the 1,400 Gulf Power employees who have been working from sunup to long past dark, more than 4,000 workers from outside that area are now here assisting in the restoration effort.
- **Emerald Coast Utilities Authority**
- The Boil Water Advisory was lifted for areas on the mainland and Perdido Key. There is still a Boil Water Advisory in affect for the core area of Pensacola Beach and Century.
 - ECUA Customer Service reopened today at 8:00 am. Phone lines are also operating and the Customer Service phone number is 850-476-0480.
 - ECUA crews restored water and sewer services to the core are of Pensacola beach only on Tuesday, July 12, 2005. This area is defined as from the bridge to entrance onto the beach to the Sheriff's substation, and east to Avendia 10.
 - ECUA crews have restored service to approximately 80% of lift stations. Residents are still asked to restrict water use if their neighborhood is out of power.
 - Main Street treatment plant is operating fully after only a 4-hour interruption during the storm.
 - The Bayou Marcus Wastewater treatment plant operated throughout the storm.
 - ECUA Sanitation was back on normal schedule Monday, July 11, 2005.
- **Escambia River Electric Cooperative**
- Approximately 30% of EREC members now have electricity. First, service will be re-established to the main distribution lines. Then repair crews will go neighborhood-by-neighborhood, street-by-street, and home-by-home restoring service.
 - Escambia River Electric Cooperative received widespread damage to their power system. All members are without power at this time. Five of seven substations received heavy damage to the transmission lines, which bring the electricity from their generating plant.
 - The transmission to Jay substation has been repaired. They are working on critical loads such as hospitals.
 - Hundreds of line personnel arrived to help rebuild the power system. Crews from Louisiana, Georgia, Missouri, Kentucky, and many other states have sent linemen to assist. More crews will also be arriving today to join our restoration force.
 - Currently, EREC has restored power to almost 500 members in each of the two counties we serve. We ask our members to be patient as our line crews work tirelessly to repair EREC's power system.
 - Call 1-800-235-3848 to report power outages.
- **Gonzales Utilities and Farm Hill Utilities**
- These utilities have reported that they are fully operational.
- **Bell South**
- BellSouth reports that more than 4,300 customer lines have been restored.
 - Customers are encouraged to call for repair and report outages to (877) 737-2478 for residences and (866) 620-2478 for business lines.

- With power outages, some customers receiving service through remote telephone terminals have experienced service interruptions. Service to most of those customers is being restored as commercial power returns.
 - Some customers may experience service interruptions if their lines have been damaged. As soon as it is safe to enter these areas, BellSouth sweep teams are assessing damage and restoring service.
 - Approximately 7,000 BellSouth employees maintain the Florida network and hundreds of BellSouth technicians in surrounding BellSouth states are mobilized with vehicles, equipment and supplies ready to work around the clock to help restore telephone service to Florida customers affected by Hurricane Dennis.
- **Cox Communications**
- 83% of the Pensacola network is up and operating.
 - If customers do not have service, please contact Cox at 478-0200.
 - 1,000 additional contractors and employees from other Cox service areas will help restore services as soon as possible.
- **Salvation Army**
- The Salvation Army Emergency Disaster Services is currently serving meals, sandwiches, snacks and drinks to Hurricane Dennis victims and disaster responders from 10:30-6:30 p.m. until further notice at the following locations:
 - Faith Miracle Center, 4317 N. Palafox St., Pensacola
 - Walnut Hill Community Center, 7850 Highway 97 N, Walnut Hill
 - **Governor's Front Porch, 1040 Guillemard Street, Pensacola (NEW)**
 - Parkmore Plaza, 6275 Hwy. 90, Milton
 - Winn Dixie Parking Lot, 3355 Gulf Breeze Pkwy, Gulf Breeze
 - Old Albertson's Parking Lot, 4525 Mobile Highway, Pensacola
 - Byrneville Community Center, Inc., 1701 Highway 4A, Century
 - Pace Assembly of God, 3948 Highway 90, Pace
 - Casino Parking Lot, Pensacola Beach
 - The location at Pensacola Retirement Center is closed.
 - Additional locations will be announced as Emergency Disaster Canteen Food Units arrive in the area.
- **Red Cross**
- Approximately 25 Emergency Responses Vehicles will be roaming the county in heavily effected areas including New Warrington, Walnut, Century, and other requested areas.
 - All Red Cross volunteers and individuals wishing to volunteer their support for Hurricane Dennis should contact their local Red Cross office unless already scheduled for assignments.
 - In Escambia County, Red Cross volunteers and those wanting to assist should call (850) 432-7601.
- **United Way**
- Any residents who would like to volunteer to assist others please call the EOC Volunteer Line at 471-6696.

- The Volunteer Reception Center is open for donations.
- **Council on Aging**
 - Meals on Wheels home delivery will resume Wednesday, July 13, 2005.
 - Congregate meal sites with electricity will resume serving meals on Wednesday, July 13, 2005. As of 9:30 am Tuesday, July 12, sites with electricity are Felix Miga Senior Citizens Center, Century Senior Center and Warrington United Methodist Church. For more information, contact the Council on Aging's Community Service Department at 266-2511 or 266-2512.
 - The congregate meals site operated at Byrneville Community Center in Century is closed until further notice due to structural damage from Hurricane Dennis.
- **Covenant Hospice**
 - Covenant Hospice is still treating patients and accepting new patients.
 - They will still accept monetary donations, but are unable to accept furniture, clothing and garage sale items at this time.
- **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services**
 - Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services of Northwest Florida is providing free telephones designed for hard of hearing citizens. The agency is also providing the telephone service associated with these phones free of charge at this time because Hurricane Dennis. For more information call (850) 433-7128 and ask for Chris.
- **Department of Children & Families**
 - Information on Emergency Food Stamps and re-issuance of July Food Stamps will be available July 12.
- **Water Health & Safety Information**
 - Effective immediately, the Health Department is issuing health alerts for all swimming and water recreation areas in the inland waters of Escambia County. Excessive surface run-off and possible sanitary sewer overflows caused by flooding may potentially contaminate local swimming areas with water-borne disease pathogens. The Health Department advises against any water-related activities including swimming and fishing in the inland waters due to the potential for high bacteria levels.
 - Excessive surface run-off and possible sanitary sewer overflows caused by flooding may contaminate the floodwaters pooled on area streets. Children and adults should stay away from pooled floodwaters on area streets; children playing in contaminated standing water can become sick due to high bacteria levels and disease pathogens.
 - The Escambia County Health Department will assess the safety of swimming areas and notify the public when regularly monitored areas are safe for swimming, fishing and water recreation.
 - Basic hygiene is very important during an emergency period. Always wash your hands with soap and water that has been boiled or disinfected and cooled before eating, after toilet use, after participating in cleanup activities, and after handling articles contaminated by floodwater or sewage.

➤ **Generator Safety**

- Generator Placement- Place the generator a minimum of 15 feet from any opening such as windows, patio doors, and open garage doors.
- Ensure that the wind is not blowing generator fumes towards any open windows. Be cautious of blowing gas fumes toward your neighbors open windows and thus creating a hazardous situation for them.
- Turn off generator before re-fueling. Allow the generator to cool before re-fueling.
- Use the proper size electrical cords with no cuts or frays. Do not pinch the cords in doors or windows.
- Symptoms of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning include: headache, dizziness, irritability, confusion/memory loss, disorientation, nausea and vomiting, abnormal reflexes, difficulty in coordinating, difficulty in breathing, chest pain, cerebral edema, convulsions/seizures, coma, and death.
- Treatment of Carbon Monoxide Poisoning:
 - Go to a safe area that is not affected by fumes and contact 911 immediately
 - Wait for assistance.
 - DO NOT RE-ENTER AFFECTED AREA.

➤ **Additional Information**

- Remain calm, especially while waiting in fuel lines, at grocery stores, banks, etc.
- Be sure to store gasoline and diesel fuel in well-ventilated areas, away from heat sources, which could cause it to ignite.
- Generators should be placed outdoors in a well-ventilated area.
- Residents can help the recovery effort by staying off the roads until curfews are lifted. Refrain from unnecessary travel following the storm's landfall.
- Evacuated residents should avoid returning to impacted areas until local authorities issue re-entry orders, roads and bridges along travel corridors re-open and utility crews begin returning power to communities.
- Exercise patience, restraint and good judgment.
- Visit floridadisaster.org for the latest information or call the Florida Emergency Information Line at 1-800-342-3557 before returning to impacted areas.

➤ **Citizen Information Line**

- Citizens may call (850) 471-6600 if they have questions about Hurricane Dennis.

➤ **Price Gouging**

- Residents are asked to report price gouging to the Florida Attorney General at 1-866-966-7226.

➤ **Official Website**

- www.bereadyescambia.com

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